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IMPORTANT NOTICE!

All Scientific Papers submitted for Publication must be Typewritten.

Notify the office promptly of any change of address, in order that mailing list and addresses in the Register may be corrected.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

With this issue the tenth volume of your JOURNAL is closed and another year ended. Whether the net result of the year of work and of publication be good or bad, it is finished and put away with the things that have been. The JOURNAL, this last year, has printed more matter, more original papers and, we think, better papers, than in any previous year. As nearly everything that we published is produced by California physicians, the JOURNAL, to a large extent, reflects the productivity and the value of the product, of California doctors. The better your work and the more carefully you prepare your papers, the better will be the JOURNAL and the more credit will it reflect upon the medical profession of California and its state organization. In saying good-by to the volume and to the year, the editor wishes to take the opportunity of extending his sincere and personal thanks to all those who have contributed and to all those who have helped so greatly with the year's work; the year has gone quickly and smoothly and there has been a pleasant feeling of co-operation. It is impossible to be an editor of anything and not offend some people and hurt other people's feelings; your editor is sorry that this has to be so and in wishing a "Merry Christmas" to you all, he extends his regrets to those who may think that they have had cause to be offended. May we all have a very Merry Christmas and a pleasant holiday and then buckle down to making the next year not only a "Happy New Year" but a better one and a more prosperous one.

About the middle of October the President of the State Society, Dr. O. D. Hamlin, sent to the president and secretary of each county medical society in the state, a very important letter. The matters presented have been carefully considered for a long time and the letter was not sent out until the whole question had been discussed with a number of members and with the Council. The following is the text of the President's message and it should furnish food for thought for all of us:

October 12, 1912.

From the President

To all County Medical Societies,

My Dear Colleagues:—

The important matters herein presented for your earnest consideration were considered by your Council at a meeting held September 25th, 1912, and your Council agreed in all particulars with the views of your President.

In the Legislature that will meet in January, 1913, there will be a number of men who have openly stated that they will do all in their power to oppose public health legislation, to do away with much of the existing laws guarding public health and to so lower and weaken the standards required to practice medicine as to practically eliminate all present safeguards and permit any and all unqualified persons, quacks, etc., to settle in California and prey upon our people without violating any law.

You should do everything in your power to make it clear to the business interests of your community that retrogressive legislation of this sort will, in a short time, mean disaster and widespread disease; that epidemics mean a tremendous loss of money and insufficient public health control will mean a certain and sure increase of disease, notably smallpox, typhoid, etc. And also, that lowered standards of medical licensure, special boards for special cults, unlimited and uncontrolled reciprocity will mean an enormous influx of unqualified practitioners and quacks who will be a disgrace to the state and a menace to its people.

If business men can be made to see clearly what the situation will be and to what extent this lowering of medical and public health standards will injure the state financially, their influence with the legislature or with the Governor may be sufficient to curb or counteract this dangerous activity which now threatens the State of California.

If medical standards are to be lowered, or special boards of licensure for special cults created (which will mean the same thing), then the only hope for preserving any respect for our profession in the minds of the better and clearer thinking class of people will be found in our County Medical Societies.

In admitting new members, their professional and moral qualifications should be closely scanned; QUALITY OF MEMBER-